

Message Text

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\$!QY70F25\$;S\$#"F8G"_QD#PHRJUI(:9C H>)(A6 K.VZ H#!0>Q8\$/.!8 *XCP7;KJB#DZFWKT!RXD>Y5*@P<;W!M-?

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63
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01

COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 /088 W

----- 054454

R 150200Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9903

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

6. THE ABOVE SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS INDICATING THAT ALL THE CARDS ARE STACKED IN NATIONAL'S FAVOR. WHILE MULDOON HAS RAISED THE AVERAGE VOTER'S LEVEL OF CONCERN ABOUT THE ECONOMY, HE WILL HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME OVERCOMING THE FACT THAT LABOUR'S POLICIES HAVE KEPT EMPLOYMENT HIGH. LABOUR ALSO BENEFITS FROM BEING THE INCUMBENT GOVERNMENT, WITH ALL THAT IMPLIES IN TERMS OF PUBLICITY AND THE ABILITY TO INTRODUCE VOTE-GETTING PROGRAMS AND POLICIES. AND NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN ARE THOSE 23 SEATS (OUT OF AN 87 SEAT HOUSE) THAT LABOUR HOLDS AS ITS MAJORITY.

7. ALL POLITICAL OBSERVERS AGREE THAT THE ELECTION WILL BE CLOSE. SENIOR NATIONAL PARTY MEMBERS EXPRESS A CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM ABOUT THEIR CHANCES OF REGAINING THE TREASURY BENCHES WITH A SMALL MAJORITY. THEIR OPPOSITE NUMBERS IN THE LABOUR PARTY SEE THEMSELVES BEING RETURNED WITH PERHAPS A 7-VOTE MAJORITY. MOST INDEPENDENT OBSERVERS ARE UNWILLING TO RISK THEIR
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REPUTATIONS AT THE MOMENT, PREFERRING TO NOTE THAT LABOUR'S MAJORITY WILL BE DIFFICULT TO OVERCOME BUT THAT MULDOON IS MAKING GOOD USE OF THE ISSUES HE HAS TO WORK WITH.

8. COMMENT: FROM THE EMBASSY'S Vantage POINT THE OUTCOME OF THE ELECTIONS APPEARS TO BE FAR FROM CERTAIN. LABOUR HAS A SOLID MAJORITY AND, FOREIGN TRADE AND OVERSEAS EXCHANGE PROBLEMS NOTWITHSTANDING, IT HAS MANAGED TO KEEP PEOPLE WORKING. IF OPINION POLLS ARE TO BE BELIEVED, HOWEVER, NATIONAL HAS TAKEN A POPULARITY LEAD OVER LABOUR AND THERE IS A VISCERAL FEELING THAT MULDOON'S ATTACK ON LABOUR'S ECONOMIC POLICIES HAS HAD

AN IMPACT ON THE SWING VOTE. THIS COULD BE AN
IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE 14 SEATS LABOUR HOLDS BY LESS
THAN FOUR PERCENT. A CHANGE OF 600 VOTES IN EACH OF
THESE CONSTITUENCIES COULD SEE NATIONAL BACK IN OFFICE
AT THE END OF THE YEAR. IN ANY EVENT, THE NEXT FOUR MONTHS
WILL BE EXTREMELY INTERESTING ONES. SELDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONAL ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Review Date: 07 JUL 2003
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by ellisoob>
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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To: STATE
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